(c) whether it is also a fact that a large number of persons have been retrenched in this Industry during first three months of the current year clue to the above mentioned reason; and

(d) if so, the number of persons deprived of their jobs and the percentage of decrease in dividend likely to occur?

THE MINISTER OF S'TATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The profit margins of exporting companies in the IT sector have been affected as a result of the appreciation of the rupee.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Special incentives for small software companies

†2468. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 5,000 software companies are operating under Information Technology Industry in the country;

(b) if not, the estimated number thereof during the year 2007;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are 20 such largest companies in the Information Technology Industry whose revenue constitutes upto 70 per cent revenue of the industry;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard;

(e) whether Government are providing special incentives to small companies; and

(f) if so, the names of these companies and whether big industries have been deprived of these incentives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) As per STPI (Software Technology Parks of India) during the Financial Year 2007 more than 7000 STP units are operating.

(c) and (d) As per NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Services Companies) top 20 IT companies contribute about 60-65% of the IT exports.

(e) and (f) As per ESC (Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council) there is no special incentives to small companies of which big industries are deprived of. However, companies having their turnover up to Rs. 15 crores in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the preceding year are eligible for financial assistance for their export promotion activities, under the MDA (Market Development Assistance) scheme of Department of Commerce and similar other scheme run by the Ministry of SSI.

Creation of BSNL Videsh

2469. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a new telecom company called BSNL Videsh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Identity of mobile holders

†2470. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mobile companies have checked the identity of mobile holders after the directions issued by Government;

(b) if so, the names of the companies which have deactivated the mobile numbers of those holders who have not been found genuine; and

(c) if, so, the numbers thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per reports received from mobile service providers and their associations, names of the companies who have deactivated telephone connections, and the number of connections deactivated are given in Statement-I and II respectively.

Statement-I

Name(s) of companies who have deactivated telephone connections

BPL Mobile Communication Ltd.

Shyam Telelink Ltd. Aircel

Cellular Limited

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